Manor of Laighton Bussard alias Grovebury

18 October 1705

Court Baron of the Honourable Thomas Leigh Baron Stonleigh farmer Deacon and Cannon of the liberty of the Chapel Royal of St George within the castle of Windsor held at Laighton Bussard aforesaid namely Thursday the eighteenth day of October in the fourth year of the reign of Queen Anne by Grace of God Queen of England Scotland France and Ireland defendor of the faith in the year of our Lord 1705 before Francis Neale Gentleman deputy Steward Thomas Maiseterson Esquire Steward of the manor aforesaid.

Essoins as manifested in roll of tenants customs

Suits-nil

Homage: Jurors:

Edward Ashwell junior John Capon
Arthur Tarsey John Bedcott

William Whipham junior Thomas Burnham Richard Leach senior Thomas Valentyne

Michael Highed Edward Roberts Senior

Richard Poynton Thomas Hogg

Thomas Coles and

John Ashwell Senior Edward Stare

Who are sworn and charged with diverse articles touching the Court Baron say and upon their oath believe that William Freeman Richard Yates Henry Daniell William Tompkyns Robert Hood Thomas Tarsey Benedict Worrall and William Cooke with many others and now tenants of this manor and owe suit to this Court and all of them made default to the court but by grace of the lord their amercements for each man is spared.

Likewise at this court it was found and believed by the homage and witnessed by the deputy steward that William Pym Esquire a customary tenant of this manor and Elizabeth his wife she herself the said Elizabeth had previously been examined alone and secretly by Francis Neale the deputy steward aforesaid and declared that she herself did without intimidation or pressure from her husband outside court namely on the twenty sixth day of September last [] And soon after the

end of the Court Baron held for the manor aforesaid upon this same day surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod through the hands of the aforesaid Francis Neale gentleman deputy steward of the manor aforesaid according to custom of this manor All and Singular their customary messuages cottages closes land tenements and hereditaments whatsoever held by copy of court roll of the manor aforesaid with their and all of their appurtenances To the Use and Behoof of such person or persons and by such estate and estates and to and by such uses intentions and purposes of what kind he the said William Pym in and by his last will and testament in writing or by some other writing then made or to be made limited directed or appointed.

To this court came Elizabeth wife of Thomas Honnor of Wingfield in the County of Bedford yeoman Joan wife of John Peppiat of Edlesborough in the County of Buckingham mealman Susan wife of Richard Sibley of Over Gravehurst in the said County of Bedford yeoman and Mary wife of Daniel Platt of Hendon in the county of Middlesex yeoman daughters and coheirs of William Jenkins of Billington in the parish of Laighton Bussard aforesaid lately a customary tenant of this manor deceased and they ask the lord to admit themselves tenants to one messuage or tenement with appurtenances in Billington aforesaid and to one close of pasture thereto belonging and adjacent also to all other pieces or parcels of arable land with appurtenances lying dispersed in all of the fields of Billington aforesaid within the parish of Laighton Bussard aforesaid containing by estimation fifty acres more or less also to two half virgates of meadow by estimation four acres lying in Billington Meade and to five perches (in English poles) of meadow lying in Mill Fen also to common rights for four cows in the common called Summerleys also to all other customary land tenements and hereditaments whatsoever held by the late William Jenkins before his decease by copy of court roll of this manor according to the presentation made to the previous court held for the manor aforesaid with their and all of their appurtenances to whom the lord through his steward granted thence seisin by the rod to Have and to Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances to the aforesaid Elizabeth wife of Thomas Honnor Joan wife of John Peppiatt Susan wife of Richard Sibley and Mary wife of Daniel Platt their heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the wish of the lord according to custom of the manor aforesaid by rent and services formerly owed and right accustomed and they gave to the lord the fine for their entry they did fealty to the lord and then were admitted tenants.

At this court it has been found and believed by the homage that Daniel Platt and Mary his wife customary tenants of the manor aforesaid (she herself the said Mary has been previously been examined alone and secretly by Francis Neal gentleman deputy steward of the manor aforesaid and declared that she herself did without intimidation or pressure from her husband) outside court namely on the aforesaid eighteenth day of October instant and immediately after the admission of

herself Mary to the premises aforesaid hereafter mentioned at this same court held on the same day for the manor aforesaid and surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod through the hands of Thomas Hogg and John Ashwell two other customary tenants of this manor according to the custom of the manor aforesaid All that her fourth part (the whole into four parts equally divided) of one messuage fifty acres of land two half-virgates of meadow and common pasture for four cows with its' and all of its' appurtenances in Billington in the parish of Laighton Bussard in the county of Bedford also all other of her customary land tenements and hereditaments whatsoever held from the Manor aforesaid with their and all of their appurtenances To the Use and Behoof of themselves aforesaid the said Daniel Platt and Mary his wife their heirs and assigns for ever and now to this court comes the aforesaid Daniel Platt and Mary his wife and they ask the lord to admit themselves tenants to the premises aforesaid to whom the lord through his steward granted thence seisin by the rod To Have and to Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforesaid Daniel and Mary their heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and they gave to the lord their fine for entry and were admitted thence tenants they did fealty to the lord.

At this court it was found and believed by the homage that Deborah Birdseye spinster (one of six daughters and coheirs of William Birdseye deceased) a customary tenant of this manor outside court namely on the same twenty eighth day October instant on which the court of the manor aforesaid was held for the manor aforesaid surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod through the hands of Thomas Valentyne and John Ashwell two other customary tenants of the manor aforesaid according to custom of this manor All that her sixth part (divided into six equal parts of one messuage or tenement 40 acres of arable land and meadow four acres of subcessive land or tempestivale in English Lammas Ground by estimation more or less existing with it's appurtenances being in Eggington in the parish of Laighton Bussard aforesaid in the County of Bedford Also all every of her customary land tenements and hereditaments whatsoever held by the said Deborah Birdseye from the manor aforesaid with all and all of their appurtenances To the Use and Behoof of William Valentyne of Eggington aforesaid yeoman his heirs and assigns for ever and now to this court came the said William Valentyne and he asked the lord to admit himself tenant to the premises aforesaid to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid granted thence seisin by the rod To Have and to Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforesaid William Valentyne his heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and he gave to the lord his fine for entry and he was admitted thence tenant did fealty to the lord.

At this court is was witnessed by Francis Neale gentleman deputy steward of the manor aforesaid and found and believed by the homage the citizen and aromatorier from London (eldest son and heir) of Philip Clarke before his decease lately a customary tenant of this manor outside court namely on the eighteenth day of September in the year of our Lord 1705 surrendered by the rod into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid through the hands of the said Francis Neale his deputy steward of the same manor according to the custom of the manor aforesaid ALL that customary messuage or tenement with appurtenances called or known by the name of the Catherine Wheel situated and being in Laighton Bussard aforesaid also one piece of meadow called Rackly Hookes and all those eight acres and one half acre of arable land lying dispersed in the common fields of Laighton Bussard aforesaid belonging to the said messuage with its' and all of its' appurtenances also all legal estates tithes rights interest uses profits from property inheritances and her demands whatsoever from in and to the messuage land and premises aforesaid whatsoever to the premises lately given and surrendered by the aforesaid Philip Clarke late father of the said Phillip Clarke deceased to the Use and Behoof of John Clarke son according to the late Phillip and his heir and to whom the premises about thirty three years or so the said John Clarke should have been admitted and in respect thereof made some payment to the lord of the manor for the admission by remission and negligence to whom John Marsh gentleman then steward of the manor aforesaid was never recorded or enrolled as it ought to have been by confirmation of the title and former estate of late John to the said premises aforesaid the surrender was made by the said Philip Clarke according to him as aforementioned To the Use and Behoof of John Clarke Philip Charke and sons according to Philip Clarke deceased their heirs and assigns for ever and now to this court comes the said John Clark and asks the lord to admit himself tenant to the premises aforesaid thus the surrender as aforementioned to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid granted thence seisin by the rod To Have and Hold the premises 'aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforementioned John Clarke his heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed he did fealty to the lord and was admitted thence tenant but by grace of the lord of the manor the fine was respited.

At this court it was found and believed by the homage that Samuel Stonard of Chepping Barnett in the County of Hertford a customary tenant of this manor outside court namely on the thirteenth day of October in the year of our lord 1705 surrendered into the hands of the lord by the rod through the hands of Thomas Foster and Thomas Coles two other customary tenants of the same manor according to the custom of the manor aforesaid All that his cottage with appurtenances lying and being in Grigg Lane in Laighton Bussard within the manor aforesaid To the Use and Behoof of Samuel

Stonard for and during his natural life and after his decease To the Use and Behoof of Samuel Stonard his Abfili in English Grandson and son of John of Uxbridge in the County of Middlesex and his heirs for ever and although the aforesaid Samuel Stonard grandfather to Samuel Stonard his Grandson and the said Samuel Stonard Grandson of Samuel were called to come to court to make and receive etc. they did not come and therefore the first declaration was made.

To this court Charles Pym Senior gentleman and Sarah his wife a customary tenant of this manor and Charles Pym junior legitimate heir of the said Charles Pym senior (she herself the said Sarah was firsly examined alone and secretly by Francis Neale gentleman and deputy steward of the manor aforesaid declaring without pressure of intimidation from her husband) and in full and open court surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor by the rod through the hands of the said Francis Neale deputy steward of the manor aforesaid according to custom of this manor All that their messuage tenement or Inn in which Andrew Gladman now inhabits called or known by the sign of "The George" together with all houses structures buildings barns brewhouses (or malthouses) yards gardens positicus (In English backsides) and a close of pasture thereto adjoining and belonging situated and being in Laighton Bussard aforesaid in the County of Bedford also all their several closes pieces or parcels of pasture arable land and meadow containing together by estimation eighty acres (more or less) being and lying in Laighton Bussard aforesaid and Clipson in the parish of Laighton Bussard aforesaid with their and every of their appurtenances To the use Behoof of John Ashwell junior his heirs and assigns for ever and now to this court come John Ashwell junior and he asks the lord to admit himself tenant to the premises aforesaid to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid granted thence seisin by the rod To Have and to Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforementioned John Ashwell junior his heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed he did fealty to the lord and was admitted then tenant but the lord forgave his fine and heriot.

And afterwards to this same sitting court came William Whipham in his own self and claimed against John Ashwell junior in a plea aforesaid to wit concerning the aforesaid messuage tenement or Inn land tenements and customary hereditaments held from this manor thus surrendered by the aforementioned Charles Pym senior and Sarah his wife and Charles Pym junior to the Use and Behoof of the aforesaid John Ashwell junior as aforementioned with their and all of their appurtenances namely of one messuage two gardens eighty acres of land ten acres of meadow and ten acres of pasture with appurtenances in Laighton Bussard and Clipson within the jurisdiction of this court and made presentation of his claim to this court in the form of Queen's Brief for Entry on

Disseisin en le Post read to this court and he found pledges for his process namely John Doe and Richard Roe and he asked to proceed with it and it was granted etc. and the said John Ashwell junior freely offered seisin to the respondent the aforementioned William Whipham in the plea aforesaid and upon this the said William Whipham in his own person petitioned against John Ashwell Junior for the tenement and premises aforesaid held from this manor with appurtenances in the manor aforesaid within the jurisdiction of this court as his right and inheritance and in that the same John Ashwell did not have entry after disseisin because Hugo Hunt then unjustly and without judgement made to the aforementioned William Whipham within thirty years now since elapsed and whence he said that he himself had seisin of the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances in his demesne that was held by fee and right by copy of the Court roll of the manor aforesaid according to the custom of this manor in times of peace in the time of the lady queen now taking profits to the value etc. and on that etc. and hence the said suit etc. and upon this the said John Ashwell in his own self came and defended his right etc. when etc. and called then to account Charles Pym Senior and Sarah his wife and Charles Pym junior who are present here in court in their own proper persons and freely warrant the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances to him etc. and upon this the said William Whipham claims against the aforementioned Charles Pym senior and Sarah his wife and Charles Pym junior defendents by his warranty to the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances in the form of the aforesaid etc and then said that he himself was seised of the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances in his demesne as by right and fee held from the manor by copy of court roll of the manor aforesaid according to the custom of this manor in times of peace in times of the lady now taking profits to the value etc and in that etc. and thence the said suit etc.

And upon this the said Charles Pym senior and Sarah his wife and Charles Pym junior in their own proper persons came and defended their right when etc. And lastly they called then to warrant Thomas Coles who was clearly present here in court in his own self and he freely warranted the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances etc and upon this the said William Whipham claimed against the aforementioned Thomas Coles tenant by his warranty to the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances in the form aforesaid etc. and he said that he himself was seised of the tenements and premises aforementioned with appurtenances in his demesne as by right and fee by copy of the court roll of the manor aforesaid according to the custom of the same manor in times of peace in times of the lady Queen now taking profits to the value etc. and in that etc. and hence the said suit etc.

And upon this Thomas Coles tenant by his warranty in his own self came into court and defended his right here in court when etc. and he said that the aforesaid Hugo Hunt did not disseise the aforementioned William Whipham of the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances as the same William by his complaint and statement aforesaid previously supposes and the homage of the court of the lord of the manor considered the aforesaid. And the said William Whipham asked permission to interrupt until the whole hour after midday of the same day and this was granted etc. and the same hour was given to the aforementioned Thomas Coles he is here etc.

And afterwards specifically at the aforesaid full hour after midday of the same day William Whipham returned here to this same court in his own proper person and the said Thomas Coles through legally called by three proclamations did not return but in contempt of court withdrew and made default so it was considered by this court that the said William Whipham recovered his seisin against the aforementioned John Ashwell junior of the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances and that the same John Ashwell junior may have the land customary tenements aforesaid from Charles Pym Senior and Sarah his wife and Charles Pym junior furthermore they may have the land and customary tenements within the manor aforesaid from Thomas Coles to the value etc. and the same Thomas Coles is in mercy etc. and upon this the said William Whipham sought a court order in the form of a Queen's writ to the heirs granting to them full seisin of the tenements and premises with appurtenances directed by the court official and it was granted to him returnable here without delay etc. And afterwards namely to the same court in session came the said William Whipham in his own proper person and the court official namely James Burchmaster Bailiff of the manor aforesaid and returned the aforesaid precept aforesaid and the aforesaid official certified to the court that he himself by virtue of the precept aforesaid he himself then directed in that matter this same eighteenth day of October full seisin was made of and in the tenements aforesaid with appurtenances thus as aforementioned by himself William Whipham recovered as by the precept that he himself ordered and afterwards namely to this court in session in full execution of the judgement and recovery aforesaid and according to the custom of the manor aforesaid came the said William Whipham in his own proper person and asks the lord to admit himself tenant to the tenements and premises with appurtenances so the recovery as aforementioned according to the form and effect of the recovery aforesaid and according to the custom of the manor aforesaid to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid granted then seisin by the rod To Have and to Hold the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforementioned William Whipham his heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed he did fealty to the lord and was then admitted tenant but the lord out of grace remised the fine and

heriot. Upon which to this same court came John Ashwell junior Charles Pym senior and Sarah his wife and Charles Pym junior and Thomas Coles in their own proper persons and here in full and open court surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod through the hands of Francis Neale his steward of the manor aforesaid according to custom of the same manor the messuage tenement or inn closes land hereditable tenements and premises aforesaid recovered as aforementioned with their and all of their appurtenances To the Use and Behoof of he himself William Whipham his heirs and assigns for ever and furthermore by his heirs executors and administrators and each of them separately and respectively warrant full and absolute remise release and quitclaim to the aforesaid William Whipham (in full and peaceful possession and his seisin existing) his heirs and assigns all rights estates titles interest claims and demands whatsoever of they themselves John Ashwell junior and Charles Pym senior and Sarah his wife Charles Pym junior and Thomas Coles and everyone of them from in and to the tenements and premises aforesaid with appurtenances and in as many parts and parcels and also all manner of errors and errors causes of errors and error misprision defect errors of process whatsoever and howsoever or omissions commissions permissions in seeking legal process and execution of the said recovery or in any other way.

And immediately afterwards to this court in session came the said William Whipham and in full and open court surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod through the hands of his steward of the manor aforesaid according to custom of this manor the messuage tenement or Inn closes land hereditable tenements and premises aforesaid recovered by himself as aforementioned with their and all of their appurtenances To the Use and Behoof of the said Charles Pym Senior his heirs and assigns for ever and now to this court came the said Charles Pym senior in his own proper person and asked the lord to admit himself tenant to the premises aforesaid to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid granted thence seisin by the rod To have to Hold the premises with appurtenances by the aforesaid Charles Pym Senior his heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed he did fealty to the lord and was admitted tenant but the lord by grace remised his fine and heriot.

And immediately afterwards to this same court comes Charles Pym senior gentleman a customary tenant of this manor and Sarah his wife and Charles Pym junior son and certain heir of the first Charles Pym senior (firstly she herself the said Sarah was examined by Francis Neale gentleman deputy steward of the manor aforesaid alone and secretly and she declared that she herself did

without intimidation or pressure from her husband aforesaid) and in full and open court surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor by the rod through the hands of said Francis Neale deputy steward of the manor aforesaid according to custom of the manor aforesaid all those their seventy acres by estimation more or less of arable land and grasslands lying dispersed in the common fields and precint of Laighton Bussard aforesaid and Clipson in the parish of Laighton Bussard aforesaid also all that their land lying in the common fields of Laighton Bussard aforesaid (except one close of meadow called Clariboles a piece of meadow called Kingsmeade and all closes called Le Lammas Close) also all that their barn standing in the area then in the tenure of Andrew Gladman (or the foundation upon which it now stands) with all and singular it's and all of it's appurtenances To the Use and Behoof of Richard Poynton of Laighton Bussard aforesaid yeoman his heirs and assigns for ever And now to this court came Richard Poynton and asked the lord to admit himself tenant to the premises aforesaid to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid granted then seisin by the rod To Have and To Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances by aforementioned Richard Poynton his heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and he gave the lord his entry fine did fealty to the lord and was then admitted tenant.

And immediately afterwards to this same court came Charles Pym senior gentleman a customary tenement of this manor and Sarah his wife and Charles Pym junior son and certain heir of the said Charles Pym senior (firstly she herself the said Sarah was examined by Francis Neale gentleman deputy steward of the manor aforesaid alone and secretly and she declared that she herself did without intimidation or pressure from her husband aforesaid) and in full and open court surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod through the hands of the said Francis Neale his deputy steward of the manor aforesaid according to the custom of the manor aforesaid All that messuage tenement or Inn called or known by the name or Sign of The George similarly all houses outhouses buildings structures houses brewhouse (or malthouses) barns stables yards gardens orchards backhouse and a close of pasture called The Home Close thereto adjoining and belonging situated and being in Laighton Bussard in the County of Bedford with all and all of their and every of their appurtenances (except nevertheless the building called The Wheat Barn (or foundations upon which the said barn now stands) To the Use and Behoof of Andrew Gladman of Laighton Bussard Innholder his heirs and assigns for ever and now to this court came the aforesaid Andrew Gladman and asked the lord to admit himself tenant to the premises aforesaid to whom the lord through his steward grant then seisin by the rod To Have and Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforementioned Andrew Gladman his heirs and assigns for ever from the lord

by the rod at the lord's wish according to custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and he gave to the lord his entry fine and was then admitted tenant he did fealty to the lord.

When the court was held for the manor on the aforesaid Thursday in the feast of Pentecost on the thirty first day of May in the year of the Lord 1705 it was found and believed by the homage that William Hobcroft a customary tenant of this manor outside court namely on the twentieth day of July in the year or the Lord 1704 last past surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod through the hands of Andrew Gladman and John Ashwell two other customary tenants of the same manor according to custom of the manor aforesaid All that his cottage or tenement with appurtenances in which William Hobcroft then dwelt with all houses outhouses structures yards and backhouse thereto adjacent and belonging situated in Eggington in the parish of Laighton Bussard in the County of Bedford also that his three half acres of arable land lying dispersed in the fields of Eggington aforesaid also all that his customary lands tenements and hereditaments of whateverkind held from the manor with their appurtenances To the Use and Behoof of such person or persons and by such estate or estates use and uses and upon such provisions conditions and limitations of such kind that he himself the said William Hobcroft in and by his last will and testament by he himself signed and sealed in the presence of three or more credible witnesses nominated and appointed or limited whether named limited or appointed shall give and devise the same provided always and on this condition that if the said William Hobcroft shall survive to the end of the one year next following the date of the same surrender revoked or declared surrender aforesaid to be void or have null effect then the surrender aforesaid will be void otherwise to remain in full force and then furthermore it was presented by the homage that the said William Hobcroft died soon after granting the said surrender and that the said surrender was never revoked or declared to be void and now is in full force according to the rolls of the said court within them it is fully clear and apparent and now at this court it was found and presented by the homage that he himself the said William Hobcoft afterwards in his life and soon after granting the said surrender as mentioned previously did compose his last will and testament in writing now executed and attested and now appearing here in court bearing the same date the twentieth day of July in the year of the Lord 1704 upon the said tenor of this testament and last wish of he himself William Hobcroft as regards the premises aforesaid following in these English words following namely: In the name of God Amen the 20th July in the 3rd year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne by grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland Queen defendor of the faith etc. the year of the Lord 1704 I Wm Hobcroft of Eggington in the parish of Laighton Bussard in the County of Bedford

husbandman being ill in body but of sound mind and memory (God be praised) therefore I do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament in manner following and listing below in the same testament thus continuing:

Firstly I do nominate and appoint give will and devise all that my cottage or tenement wherein I do now dwell with all houses buildings yards and backsides thereunto adjoining and belonging situate and being in Egginton aforesaid and also all those my three half acres of arable land lying dispersedly in the fields of Egginton aforesaid and all other my copyhold lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever holden of the manor of Laighton Bussard alias Grovebury with their appurtenances unto my loving wife and her assigns for and during the tenure of her natural life and after her decease I do nominate and appoint give will and devise my said cottage or tenement three half acres of arable land and other the premises with their appurtenances unto Thomas Hobcroft my son and to his heirs and assigns for ever provided always and upon condition that he the said Thomas Hobcroft my son his heirs and assigns do and shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto Jane Hobcroft and Mary Hobcroft my daughters the sum of five pounds a piece of lawful money of England within six months next after the decease of the said Sarah my wife and unto the two daughters of William Hobcroft my eldest son the sum of Forty shillings a piece within six months after the decease of the said Sarah my wife and if either of my said daughters Jane or Mary die before her said legacy shall be due to be paid then I do give her said legacy of five pounds unto the survivor of them and if both of them shall die before their said legacies shall become due then I do give both their said legacies unto my executrix hereafter named and if either of the daughters of the said William my son shall die before the said legacy be due then I do give the said legacy unto the survivor of them and if both of them shall die before their said legacies shall be come due then I do give both their said legacies to the said William my son and if default shall be made in payment of all or any of the said legacies contrary to this my will then the said legatees or such of them as shall be unpaid shall or may enter upon my said cottage lands and premises and receive the profits thereof until their said legacies shall be paid according to this my will anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding as in and by the last wish of the late William Hobcroft was fully clear and apparent by the recital and now to this court comes Sarah Hobcroft widow and relict of William testator and asks the lord to admit herself tenant to the premises aforesaid according to the form and effect of the surrender and last will and testament of the said William Hobcroft her late husband recited here above to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid then granted seisin by the rod To Have to Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforementioned Sarah for and during the term of her natural life according to the form and effect of the said surrender and last wish of the said William Hobcroft testator from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid

by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and she gave to the lord her entry fine and was admitted thence tenant did fealty to the lord etc.

At this court it was found and presented by the homage that William Scrivener a customary tenant of this manor outside court namely on the ninth day of October in the year of the Lord 1705 surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid according to custom of this manor through the hands of John Ashwell and Andrew Gladman two other customary tenants of the manor aforesaid All that his acres of arable land by estimation more of less being and lying in Briggenden Field in Egginton in the parish of Laighton Bussard in the county of Bedford next to the land of Edward Roberts on the south west and abutting upon Clipson Brook with all ridges and furrows and appurtenances thereto belonging To the Use and Behoof of Edward Roberts junior of Egginton aforesaid yeoman his heirs and assigns for ever and now to this court came the said Edward Roberts junior and asked the lord to admit himself tenant to whom the lord through his steward granted thence seisin by the rod To Have and to Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforementioned Edward Roberts his heirs and assigns from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and he gave to the lord his entry fine and was admitted thence tenant did fealty to the lord.

At this court it was found and presented by the homage that Giles Jenkins Senior a customary tenant of this manor outside court namely on the eighteenth day of June in the year of the Lord 1705 surrendered by the rod into the hands of the lord of the manor through the hands of Thomas Basterfield and John Ashwell two other customary tenants of this manor according to custom of the manor aforesaid All that messuage or tenement with appurtenances in which the said Giles Jenkins senior and Giles Jenkins junior the first son of Giles Jenkins senior now dwell also all houses outhouses buildings structures granaries stables yards gardens orchards pighties and backsides also three closes of pasture containing together by estimation five acres more or less existing thereto adjacent and belonging situated and being in Billington in the parish of Laighton Bussard in the county of Bedford also all the fifteen acres of arable land and grass land by estimation more or less being lying dispersed in the fields of Billington aforesaid and two shares or common rights to pasture for two cows in Sanerlys also all other his customary lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever lately held by Giles Jenkins senior by copy of court roll of this manor with all and singular their and of all of their appurtenances To the Use and Behoof of Giles Jenkins junior son of the late

Giles Jenkins senior his heirs and assigns for ever nevertheless Giles Jenkins junior although solemnly called to come to court to do and receive did not come and so the first proclamation was made.

To this court comes William Stevens junior son and heir of the late William Stevens senior previous to his decease a customary tenant of this manor and asks the lord to admit himself tenant to being two acres by estimation more of less of customary land held from this manor by copy of court roll which came and descended to the aforementioned William Stevens junior upon the decease of the said late William Stevens senior prior to his decease according to the presentation made by the homage at the last general court held here for the manor aforesaid on the thirty first day of May last past and then and there enrolled in the proper manner by the steward of the manor aforesaid as according to the rolls of this court it is fully clear and apparent to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid granted thence seisin To Have and to Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforesaid William Stevens junior his heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and he gave to the lord his entry fine and was admitted thence tenant and did fealty to the lord.

To this court comes William Doggett grandson of Richard Doggett and son of Charles Doggett deceased and asks the lord to admit himself tenant to all that cottage or tenement in which Richard Doggett deceased formerly dwelt with all and singular the houses outhouses buildings structures barns stables yards gardens and backhouse thereto adjoining and belonging situated and being in Laighton Bussard in the county of Bedford next to the cottage or tenement of John Peele on the eastern side with appurtenances according to the form and effect of a certain surrender made to him by the said Richard Doggett to the same William Doggett his heirs and assigns and in the proper manner presented by the homage at the last general court held here for this manor aforesaid on the thirty first of May last past and then and there in the proper manner enrolled by the steward of the manor aforesaid accordingly as is fully clear and apparent in the rolls of the court to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid granted thence seisin by the rod To Have and Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances by the aforesaid William Doggett his heirs and assigns for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and he gave to the lord his entry fine and he was admitted thence tenant and did fealty to the lord.

Whereas at the court held here for the manor aforesaid on Thursday during the feast of Pentecost namely on the thirty first of May in the year of the lord 1705 it was found and presented by the homage that John Frank and Elizabeth his wife daughter and heir of Richard Wigg gentleman deceased a customary tenant of this manor (firstly she the said Elizabeth was examined alone and secretly by Francis Neale gentleman deputy steward of the manor aforesaid and declaring that without intimidation or pressure made by her husband) outside court namely on the seventh day of November in the year of the lord 1704 she surrendered by the rod into the hands of the lord of the manor by the rod through the hands of the said Francis Neale deputy steward of the manor aforesaid according to the custom of the manor aforesaid All that her Chapel called or known by the name of Heath Chapel situated being in Heath in the parish of Laighton Bussard in the county of Bedford also All that her cell (in English Chancel) of the said Chapel adjoining also all foundations on which the said Chapel and Chancel stand and are built with the road and her three closes or pieces of land in which the chapel stands and exists by the usual customary road to the reversion and reversions of the said premises from and after the death of Frances Wigg widow To the Use and Behoof of such person or persons and by such estate and estates use and uses and upon such provisos conditions limitations trusts intents and by purposes of whatever kind she herself the said Elizabeth wife of the said John Frank in and by her last will and testament in writing or by some other writing made by herself signed and sealed in the presence of three or more credible persons (cooperating with she herself Elizabeth without obstruction have nominated limited or appointed or shall nominate limit or appoint give grant devise the very same and to and by no other use or intention or purpose whatsoever as reported (among other things) in the rolls of this court therein more fully clear and apparent and now at this court it was found and presented by the homage that she herself the said Elizabeth after making the surrender aforementioned in a certain deed now produced here in court and signed and sealed by Elizabeth herself and attested in the proper manner by the hands of three credible witnesses bearing the date the tenth of October 1705 reciting in the same writing or made or recited before she herself the same Elizabeth nominated limited and appointed and in the same writing nominated limited and appointed the said Chapel and Chancel with foundations upon which the said Chapel and Chancel stand and use of the road to and from the very same and all other premises with appurtenance surrendered as aforementioned To the Use and Behoof of John Frank her husband and John Ashwell of Laighton Bussard aforesaid scribe their heirs and assigns for ever in trust nevertheless to and by the several uses intentions and purposes in the same writing limited expressed and declared specifically that and for the said Chapel and the foundations upon which the chapel was built and now stands and the road uses to and from there with appurtenances To and for the use of the inhabitants of the hamlets of Heath and Reach in the

parish of Laighton Bussard aforesaid for the time being and the heirs and their successors of the inhabitants of the hamlets aforesaid forever to continue supporting and maintaining for divine service more specifically by such ministries of the Word of God that happens in holy orders to the aforementioned and celebration of divine service in the same according to the ceremonies and rights of the Anglican church now established from time to time and to all times forever. Provided always and upon this condition nevertheless that the said inhabitants of the hamlets aforesaid for the time being the heirs and successors of the inhabitants of the hamlets aforesaid shall maintain and keep the said Chapel and Chancel in good repair in all [...] whatsoever from time to time and to all times in the future for ever. And as far as the said Chapel and the foundations upon which the same Chancel exists and was built with all appurtenances to be nominated limited and appointed by the said Elizabeth in the same writing in a similar way to continue support and maintain for great divine service and for the usual and proper use of they themselves John Frank and Elizabeth alone and the legal heirs of their bodies between them begot and in default of such issue the heirs and assigns of the survivor of them John Frank and Elizabeth his wife for ever as in that writing more fully and clearly therein reported.

And now to this court came the said John Frank and John Ashwell and they petitioned the lord to admit themselves tenants to the premises aforesaid thus the surrender as aforementioned according to the form and effect of the surrender and the writing recited above nevertheless the lord by his steward aforesaid granted thence seisin by the rod To Have and to Hold the aforesaid premises with appurtenances by John Frank and John Ashwell their heirs and assigns for ever from the lord upon trust and according to the form and effect of the said surrender and writing aforesaid from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid by rents and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and they gave to the lord their fine for entry and they were admitted thence tenants and did fealty to the lord.

At this court it was found and believed by the homage that Thomas Morris lately a customary tenant of this manor who whilst he was living held to himself and his heirs by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid a customary messuage or tenement with appurtenances situated in Heath in which the said Thomas Morris lately dwelt he died since the last court thus seised the heirs of his body and that of Jane his wife to whom should have the estate in the said messuage and premises aforesaid similarly died during his life and that Frances wife of Walter Hickman and Thomas Edge son and heir of Ellen Morris late wife of Thomas Edge are the proper co-heirs of him to whom the premises ought to descend that is to say the son and co-heir of

John Morris who is the only brother and heir of the said Thomas Morris and now to this court comes the said Frances wife of Walter Hickman and Thomas Edge and ask the lord to admit themselves tenants to the premises aforesaid to whom the lord through his steward aforesaid granted thence seisin by the rod To have to Hold the premises aforesaid with appurtenances aforesaid by Frances and Thomas and their heirs for ever from the lord by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid by rent and services formerly owed and by right accustomed and they gave to the lord their entry fine and they were admitted thence tenants and did fealty to the lord.

Likewise at this court it was found and presented by the homage that William Lord a customary tenant of this manor outside court namely on the twenty third day of July in the year of the lord 1705 surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod through the hands of Andrew Gladman and John two other customary tenants of the manor aforesaid according to the custom of the same manor All that his cottage or tenement with appurtenances in which the said William Lord and Elizabeth Elliott widow then dwelt with all the houses edifices yards and backsides thereto adjoining and belonging situated and being in Le Leck End in Laighton Bussard aforesaid in the county of Bedford and all that his three acres of arable land by estimation more or less existing lying dispersed in the fields of Laighton Bussard aforesaid with their appurtenances To the Use and Behoof of Mary Alar wife of Anthony Alar Joan Lord and Phoebe Lord daughters of he himself William Lord their heirs and assigns for ever provided always on this condition that if the said William Lord be alive on the twentieth day of July in the year one thousand seven hundred and six or if the said William Lord at some other time before the said twentieth day of July revoke or declare the surrender aforesaid to be void and have no effect that then this surrender aforesaid is void or otherwise to remain in full force as by the said surrender related more fully and clearly therein and the homage aforesaid furthermore on their oath believed that the said William Lord soon after granting the surrender aforesaid and before the said twentieth day of July in the said surrender died and that the surrender aforesaid was never revoked or declared by the said William Lord to be void and now exists in full vigour nevertheless Mary Alar wife of Anthony Alar Joan Lord Phoebe Lord although called to come to court to do and receive etc did not come so the first proclamation was made etc.

Likewise at this court it was found and presented by the homage that William Whittamore who whilst he lived held to himself and his heirs from the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of this manor two acres of customary arable land with appurtenances lying within the manor aforesaid he died since the last court and that William

Whittamore junior is his son and next heir nevertheless William Whittamore junior although solemnly called to come to court to do and receive etc. did nor come so the first proclamation was made.

Likewise at this court it was found and presented by the homage that Oliver Taylor lately a customary tenant of this manor who whilst he lived held from the lord of this manor by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid a piece or [shop?] of customary land part with or the end of his close lying next to the road called Friday Lane he died since the last court and that Joseph Taylor is his son and next heir nevertheless Joseph Taylor although solemnly called to come to court to do and receive etc. did not come so the first proclamation etc.

Likewise at this court it was found and believed by the homage that Alice Scrivener wife of John Scrivener a customary tenant of this manor who whilst she lived held from the lord of the manor aforesaid by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid two cottages or tenements with appurtenances lying and being within the manor aforesaid she died since the last court and that Susan Scrivener is her only daughter and next heir nevertheless although Susan Scrivener was solemnly called to court to do and receive did not come so the first proclamation etc.

Likewise at this court it was found and believed by the homage that Ann Carpender widow a customary tenant of this manor who whist she lived held from the manor aforesaid by the rod at the lord's wish according to the custom of the manor aforesaid a cottage with appurtenances situated near Overing Green with a close of pasture adjoining the same and about thirty acres by estimation of arable and grassland lying within the manor aforesaid she died since the last court and that Thomas Carpenter is her son and next heir nevertheless although Thomas Carpenter was solemnly called to come to court to do and receive etc did not come so the first proclamation etc.

Likewise at this court the second proclamation was made for Gabriel Norbett to take from the hands of the lord of the manor all and singular the customary land and tenement which was previously here surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor by the rod to the use of he himself Gabriel by Richard Norbett father lately deceased.

Likewise at this court the second proclamation was made for Andrew Messider alias Toby and Mary Messider alias Toby son of Thomas Messider alias Tobey deceased to take from the hands of the lord all and singular the customary land and tenement which were previously surrendered into the hands

of the lord of the manor to the use of they themselves Andrew and Mary by the said Thomas Messider father lately deceased.

Likewise at this court the second proclamation junior was made for John Lake junior son of John Lake senior to take out of the hands of the lord of the manor all and singular the customary land and tenements which was previously surrendered before this court into the hands of the said lord of the manor to the use of he himself John Lake junior by Thomas Messider alias Toby lately deceased.

Likewise at this court the second proclamation was made for Edward Webb to come to court to take out of the hands of the lord of the manor all and singular the customary land and tenements which were previously surrendered before this court into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid to the use of he himself Edward by William Jellings lately deceased.

Likewise at this court the second proclamation was made for Francis Smith to come to court to take out of the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid all and singular the customary land and tenements which were formerly surrendered into the hands of the said lord of the manor aforesaid to the use of he himself Francis Smith by William Jellings lately deceased.

Likewise at this court the second proclamation was made for Thomas Hackshaw son and heir of Geoffrey Hackshaw lately a customary tenant of this manor deceased to take out of the hands of the lord of the manor all customary lands and tenements which were to come or descend to him upon the death of the said Geoffrey Hackshaw.

Likewise at this court at which Thomas Herbert and Ann his wife John Gale and George Gale did not come to take out of the hands of the lord of the manor all and singular his customary land and tenements which were surrendered by Ann Moreton to the use of themselves Thomas and Anne for the duration of their natural lives with the remainder to the said John and George Gale and their heirs so the third proclamation was made etc. and upon this it was ordered by the bailiff of the manor aforesaid that the aforesaid tenements and appurtenances so surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid be seised by default of tenants.

Likewise at this court to which William Griffith and Sarah Spencer his wife did not come to court to take out of the hands of the lord the land and customary tenements held from this manor lately surrendered by Daniel Keep and Constance Clotilda his wife to the use of themselves William Griffith

and Sarah Spencer his wife so the third proclamation was made and upon this it was ordered by the manor bailiff aforesaid that the tenements aforesaid with appurtenances so surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid be seised.

Likewise at this court the third proclamation was made for Josiah Keetch to come to court to take out of the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid all customary lands and tenements held from the manor aforesaid lately surrendered by Richard Hilton to the use of Josiah Keetch so the third proclamation was made etc and upon this it was ordered by the bailiff of the manor aforesaid that the tenements and premises with appurtenances so surrendered into the hands of the said lord of the manor aforesaid be seised.

Likewise at this court the third proclamation was made that the next heir of Thomas Cherry deceased to come to court to be admitted to all the customary land and tenements with appurtenances which to whom descend on the death of Thomas Cherry but no one came so it was ordered by the manor bailiff aforesaid that the premises aforesaid surrendered into the hands of the lord of the manor aforesaid be seised.

Third proclamation was made for the heirs of George Lawley in the permissible manner.

Third proclamation was made for the heirs of William Jellings in the permissible manner

Third proclamation was made for the heirs of William Harris in the permissible manner.